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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	The VETs "Petrovo" near Petrovo, Sandanski Okoliya	DATE DISTR.	1 March 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The VETs (Vodno Elektrichesko Tsentrala) "Petrovo" Hydroelectric Plant is located approximately 250-300 meters from the last houses in the eastern outskirts of Petrovo (N 41-27, E 23-29), on the road to Goleshovo (N 41-26, E 23-34) village, Sandanski Okoliya. It is not far from the north side of the Goleshovo road and about 150 meters east of the bridge on this road which is located on the eastern outskirts of the village. The "Petrovo" Hydroelectric Plant is located about 500 meters northwest of the Kaf'ovata Mill. The area around the plant is not yet enclosed, but posts have been put in the ground for the eventual placing of barbed wire.
2. The area of the power plant comprises the land from the eastern outskirts of Petrovo to the small bridge located on the road to Goleshovo village, a little before it connects with the macadam road to "Large and Small Gulak" peaks and about 80 meters south and about 200 meters north of this road. The whole area is a restricted zone, and is partially fenced only on the side by the village. Travel is forbidden in this zone. The section of the road to Goleshovo is restricted between the village and the small village before the Kaf'ovata Mill (west of it), as well as the bridge located near the eastern outskirts of the village since the routes into it are forbidden. In order to reestablish traffic, during the spring of 1953 a new road was constructed which goes outside the forbidden zone on its south side and, a little above the second small bridge, connects with the road to Goleshovo village.
3. The forbidden zone around the power plant is included in another larger forbidden zone which extends between the road to Bel'ovo village (N 41-29, E 23-33), the road to Goleshovo, and the "Kav'rskiya khanduk" gully located near the west side of the "Kuvartitsa" locality. This area has been declared a forbidden zone by the Petrovo Forestry Enterprise, a branch of the "Tshirechko Forestry Enterprise" of Katunitsa (N 41-26, E 23-25) Sandanski Okoliya, because of its newly-planted saplings.

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4. [] the construction of the power plant has been planned since 9 September 1944, when the preliminary work was begun. The construction of the plant itself, however, was started in 1946 and was finished in 1951. The remaining buildings and equipment were finished during 1952. The "feeding" canals were old. 25X1
5. The power plant has the following buildings:
 - a. One building for the plant itself with an attached building for the generators and transformers; these two buildings have a total length of about 30 meters and a total width of about 8-10 meters in a rectangular form; about 20 meters of this length is one story high and houses the turbines, and the other 10 where the distributors are located, is two stories high;
 - b. About 50 meters west of the plant, near the south bank of the basin of the Petrovo River and about 200 meters west of the bridge, is a duplex apartment block, about 15 x 8 meters in size, where the families of the administrative and guard personnel are quartered;
 - c. About 70 meters due north of the power plant and approximately 300 meters northeast of the bridge is a second duplex residential block about 20 x 10 meters in size also used as quarters for the families of the administrative and guard personnel; and
 - d. There are also one or two unidentified small wooden barracks around these three plant buildings.
6. The VETs "Petrovo" is a hydroelectric plant which draws its electric energy from the waters of the Petrovo River and also the springs of the river which are located about 400 meters east of the Angelakeva Mill, at "Izvora" location (N 41-25, E 23-33) and about 100 meters from the road connecting it with the "Potokna" location. The Petrovo River, as well as the river from the springs to Petrovo village sometimes dries up in places into only pools. The waters of it, however, are diverted into special canals which start from "Izvora" locality. The canal has an approximate width of one meter at the bottom, a width of at least two meters at the top, and a depth of about two meters. The canal runs parallel with, and very close to, the old river bed. Stopping north of the old border post "Gerekar" (N 41-26, E 23-32), the canal is about 80-100 meters distant from the north side of the river bed. In the "Kavaritsa" place it is even farther, about 150-160 meters from the river bed, and from there it extends in a northwest direction and stops north of the power plant where it is about 1,000 meters from the river bed. The canal is of earth and was built during 1937, 1938, 1939, and 1940. At the above-mentioned place where the canal stops is a concrete basin covering 7.2 decares, with various depths up to seven meters in places. It has a circular shape. Construction on the basin was started in 1946 and completed in May 1953.
7. In the south part of this basin there is a triangular slit basin where an iron pipe about one meter in diameter and 1,060 meters long conducts the water into the power plant. The water from the VETs enters a canal about one meter wide at the bottom, about 1.5 meters wide at the top, and about 1.2 meters deep. This canal goes from the plant to Petrovo, through the square in front of the "Khoremag" after which it continues through the northern part of Yanovo (N 41-26, E 23-29), Sandanski Okoliya, circles to the north of "Ploshten" hill, and then goes on the west side of the hill and ends at Piperitsa village (N 41-24, E 23-25), Sandanski Okoliya, without having entered the old bed of the Petrovo River anywhere. From the power plant until its exit from Petrovo village, the canal has a brick bottom and sides. The waters from this canal are used to irrigate some of the fields at Yanovo and Piperitsa. There is always water in the canal.

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8. Another canal runs from the basin for irrigation at Petrich. This canal starts to the north, continues slightly northeast and parallels the Petrovo-Bel'ovo road until it connects with the "Large and Small Gulatsi" road and under the place where the covered trenches start. At this point a barrage for an irrigation system has been completed. Since there is insufficient water to meet the needs of the power plant, even when only one or two of the large turbines are in operation, the water in this irrigation canal is very low. In 1953 an agreement was reached whereby 250 liters of water per second will be put into this canal.
9. The power plant is equipped with three turbines, two large and one small (horsepower and capacity not known). The small turbine and one of the larger turbines is always in operation. One of the large turbines is always idle because there is not enough water to operate all three or even the two large turbines at the same time. [redacted] 25X1
10. The electric power produced by this plant is used mostly for lighting needs. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] The plant supplies electricity for the following villages: Petrovo, Yanovo, Katuntsi, Vranja (N 41-27, E 23-24), Kapatovo (N 41-28, E 23-22), Demyanitsa, Sandanski city and its surrounding villages. Part of the power is sent to a mine near Gara Pirin (name of this mine or ore produced not known [redacted]). The power is transmitted on high tension lines which were completed in 1950 and which pass through the village of Vranja and Khursovo, Sandanski Okoliya. [redacted] state how much further the lines extended. The posts of the high tension lines are 12 meters high. There are three strands of copper wire about one centimeter in diameter to conduct the current. These are open, i.e., they have no cable covering. 25X1
11. A second high tension line leads out of the other side of the VETs and goes through the villages of Goleshovo and Teshovo (N 41-28, E 23-41) and finally connects with the VETs "Toplika" which is located east of Musomishte village (N 41-33, E 23-45), Gotse Delchev Okoliya. This high tension line has the same characteristics as the above-mentioned one. [redacted] uncertain whether it was completed in the fall of 1952 or during the winter. However, telephone lines have not been built along it, as is the case with the high tension line to Gara Pirin. 25X1
12. [redacted] the high tension line to Gara Pirin conducts electricity at present, but [redacted] not know if the line to the VETs "Toplika" has yet been completed. 25X1 25X1
13. Plans are under way for increasing the water supply to the VETs "Petrovo" in order to be able to operate all three turbines simultaneously. This would entail using all the water from the Petrovo springs exclusively for the power plant and would stop letting all irrigation water out of it. In spite of this, [redacted] all three turbines would be able to operate simultaneously only from time to time when the basin is full and after little water has been emptied out. 25X1
14. [redacted] that two micro dams are to be built around the village in order to fulfill irrigation needs. The first is to be built at the bend of the "Enchev Dol" stream (N 41-27, E 23-31), and the other at the bend of the "Tochi Dol" stream (N 41-26, E 23-24) where the Goleshovo mine is located. The type of mine is not known. This mine was opened in 1947-1949 and was later abandoned. 25X1
15. There is sufficient and constant electric power, especially in Petrovo village, except for temporary breaks of five to 10 minutes from time to time.

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16. [redacted] VETs "Petrovo" has eight administrative workers, as follows: 25X1

- a. Boris Donchev, manager of the VETs "Petrovo" [redacted] 25X1
- b. Khristo (lmu), Party "responsible" for the power plant [redacted]
- c. Spiro Slavkov, machine technician [redacted]
- d. Kiril Karudov, machine technician [redacted]
- e. Dimitur Iliev Vangelov, cart driver [redacted]
- f. Georzi Iliev Vangelov, water distributor [redacted]
- g. Nikola Georgiev Cherkezov, water distributor [redacted]
- h. Velik Sotirov Kandilov [redacted]

17. The power plant is guarded by eight Militiamen and one starshi sergeant. Until 1952 these were members of the "Osobennata Militiya" (Special Militia), and since then they have been replaced by regular "Narodna Militsiya" (People's Militia). These have three posts in the power plant area: one at the basin, one around the power plant buildings, and the third at an unknown location. [redacted] the following Militiamen: 25X1

- a. Sotir (lmu) [redacted]
- b. Georzi Masedzhiev [redacted]
- c. Georgi Topalov [redacted]

18. [redacted]

19. [redacted] there is a power plant in or somewhere near Eleshnitsa (N 41-22, E 23-09), Petrich Okoliya, but he is unable to give absolute details about it since he has never seen it. He knows of its existence through hearsay.

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